



REDMOND PARK BOARD



Meeting Minutes September 1, 2005 Old Redmond Schoolhouse Community Center

I. Call to order/Welcome to Citizen Guests

The regular meeting of the Redmond Park Board was called to order by Vice Chair Seth Kelsey at 7:02 p.m.

Board members present: Co-chair: Kelsey, Board members: Margeson, Stewart, and Ladd.

Absent and Excused: Lori Snodgrass, Park Board Chair

City staff present: Danny Hopkins, Parks Director; Tim Cox, Parks Planning Manager; Sharon Sato, Recording Secretary.

II. Approval of Minutes

Motion for approval of the August 4, 2005 Redmond Park Board minutes as presented:

Motion by: Stewart to adopt minutes

Second by: Ladd

Motion carried: 4-0 unanimous

III. Items from the Audience

Leon Hussey, a 28-year North Redmond resident, approached the Board with a request for consideration to purchase a five-acre parcel belonging to Don and Elaine Smith. The parcel is adjacent and east of the City's Northwest Neighborhood Park site, a five acre parcel. Mr. Hussey reported that the Smith's are interested in a living trust arrangement in which the City would purchase the additional five acres, allowing the Smiths to reside on the property. The living trust would be paid for over a period of 20 or 30 years to grandchildren. Hussey has been circulating letters of request to purchase this parcel and currently has over 200 signatures. He has also spoken with the principal at Einstein and Norman Rockwell Elementary Schools in regards to assisting in procuring another 800 signatures to purchase request letters. The area houses 2,500 residences just south of the existing park and, after annexation, will be located in the central part of north Redmond. This endeavor is supported by the North Redmond Citizens Advisory Committee

(CAC). When all signatures are collected Hussey will bring the list of signatures to the Board.

Hopkins noted that at the time of the initial purchase there had been dialogue, with the Smiths, regarding a potential purchase of the additional parcel. Staff will look into further discussions with the Smiths and the possibility of a living trust.

Kelsey asked staff to keep the Board apprised on the progress of this issue.

IV. Additions to the Agenda/Handouts

A. North Redmond Citizens Advisory Committee

Terry Shirk, Sr. Planner and Advisor to the North Redmond Advisory Committee (The Committee is a 12-member panel whose members are appointed by the Mayor. Members are residents of the north Redmond neighborhood.) handed out preliminary draft recommended changes/updates (strike-out/underline format) to the "draft" Park Policies for the Neighborhoods section of the Redmond Comprehensive Plan by the Committee. Shirk requested that the Board review the document and make comments.

Scheduling process:

- September 21 - Study Session - Planning Commission (televised) - review policies/planned components within the neighborhood plan - prepare PC for Open House
- October 1 - Open House - neighborhood meeting for additional comments
- October 18 - Public Hearing with Planning Commission

Lorraine Josifeh, North Redmond resident and Member of the North Redmond Citizens Advisory Board noted that the parcel, Mr. Hussey is gathering signatures for, would provide an opportunity to create avenues of pedestrian activities, creating parallel linkages between parks and gathering areas, linking the "pods" of neighborhoods. These linkages would eliminate cul-de-sacs and promote pedestrian and bicycle connection between neighborhoods (developments), open spaces, trails, and local arterials roads, creating alternatives in additions to the main trail corridors on 116th and 172nd.

Kelsey requested the Board have time to review the document and e-mail comments/changes to staff within the next two weeks. Parks staff has been working closely with the Planning Department to make sure that everything is being well reflected between what the CAC is recommending and consistent with Park Board activities.

Hopkins added that due to extensive staff involvement, he felt that e-mailing staff comments would be sufficient. Staff will incorporate Board comments into text language, unless there are some concerns which would need to be work through; they will then be addressed at the October Board meeting. He also noted that staff has incorporated discussion that has taken place with the Board into the PRO Plan, including all properties of interest. He also mentioned that staff will be coming to the Board in the near future to address this area in regards to property adjacent to the existing Smith property, and also the school district property; which might allow the school district to maximize the overall use of that site. Hopkins asked staff to capture all comments for review.

Stewart commented that through planning and promotion; the District and State policy/requirements of the "Safe Walk Path" (creating a clear vision from one end of a trail to another) be put into compliance. Shirk will add the language, "...be consistent with the LWSD criteria."

Kelsey noted that staff has been actively involved and will inform the Board, after review, of any concerns.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Idylwood Park Dog Regulations

Hopkins reported that comments made by John Campbell (area resident and park user who addressed the Board at September's meeting), along with additional information, were reviewed by staff and recommended that, at this time, no immediate action be taken keeping all language in place, until future projects at the Park are developed. He also added that as projects develop, the use patterns and complexion will be re-evaluated.

Cox added that other jurisdictions require all dogs on leashes; however seasonal approaches to dogs on the beach area were being examined.

B. Sammamish Valley SWOT Analysis

Hopkins requested deferral to next months meeting. Staff is awaiting more information from Recreation and Maintenance Operations.

VI. New Business

A. Land Acquisition Discussion

Board members were given a map (Park Improvement Map - CIP and PIP land acquisitions) and list of land acquisitions (potential opportunities). Staff is reviewing the department's current land acquisition approach, there are several reasons for the change - money is tighter due to completion of a number of capital projects (Perrigo Park, Bear & Evans Creek Trail, renovation of Grass Lawn Park, Sunset Gardens) - hope for a potential park bond in the future, land acquisition dollars associated with Northwest Redmond and some progress to add two new neighborhood parks using school district property to forego a northwest approach.

Plans are to revitalize land acquisition efforts by:

- Look at CIP beginning in January - see what projects are partially funded by waiting a year or two parlaying that money into a land acquisition account
- Other opportunities through development, restrict development, donations, County parks system

Dialogue with the Board needs to begin on the priority of land acquisition. Hopkins asked Board members to review the list to get a better understanding of the list, put in priority order to put on the land acquisition list.

Cox noted that while not currently on the PIP, all properties are investigated immediately adjacent to existing parks - Perrigo Heights, Verizon, Hartman, Perrigo Park site, et. al.

Hopkins asked the Board to review the list so discussion can move forward on the best way to incorporate what the Park Board feels is important to the PIP and as funding becomes available being able to move forward in the best possible way.

Analysis Process review:

- SWOT Analysis - operating, programming priorities, CIP priorities
- Land acquisition strategy - CIP, PIP priorities
- Segmenting the parks system into - Community Parks, Neighborhood Parks - thought process looking at old master plans and potential and planning opportunities - capital issues

The goal is for PRO Plan update in 2006.

B. Cricket League Presentation

Staff has met with the Northwest Cricket League President and co-captain of the Redmond Colts Cricket Club. Cricket has become a very popular sport in this region, with currently 17, and proposed 22 teams in the league; numbers justify expansion. The league is currently looking for opportunities to purchase land for league use. A minimum five acres site would be required for each field.

A more thorough dialogue, between the Redmond Colts team, League and staff, must occur before an extension of the current Cricket agreement can be approved. Agreement based on a series of concerns need to be addressed and agreed upon from both sides - level of maintenance, user fee, field scheduling premium fee, man power, et. al.

Margeson inquired if the Cricket organization had contacted King County. Cox responded that the club is currently playing on the fields at Marymoor, the school district and other jurisdictions.

Hopkins added that the City is being as accommodating as possible, no permanent plan has been made, however; future plans could open up.

Stewart noted that the perimeters of Cricket seemed to be incompatible with multi-purpose park usage. Hopkins responded that dependant on what is planned for the future; accommodations/layout might be made for a multi-use Cricket field (day use opposed to afternoon/night use).

Ladd noted that Cricket games can last up to seven hours, tying up most of daylight hours thus inquiring what "premium fees" might mean. Hopkins responded that this is an issue that needs future discussion and is dependant on several criteria.

Margeson added that the City might not have the appropriate maintenance staff to keep up with demands.

The Cricket League will be giving a presentation at the October Board meeting. Staff will report back to the Board in November or December on negotiation points and continued use at Juel Park.

C. Phase 7, Municipal Campus Master Plan - Treatment Facility for Stormwater

Hopkins reported that discussions have been taking place with Jon Spangler, Natural Resources Manager and his staff, in regards to water quality issues from street run off on NE 85th and 160th and the spill into the Sammamish River. Site consideration and discussion includes

putting an underground vault on the site located east of the City Campus entrance on 160th. If the site were to house the underground vault, Stormwater would be responsible for the \$600,000 to put in the vault and building out the site. Hopkins noted that there would be a significant savings in putting the vault at that location, as well as benefiting the community in offering a public open space.

Hopkins recommended that, if the Board was to consider this; that all governing bodies (Mayor, Council, Parks & Human Services Committee) are clear and on record as to what the expectations and outcome of the project would be. Council approval and understanding of the process and dollar amounts will be clearly defined in writing. This will, with time, clarify the intent from all parties.

Kelsey inquired why the vault could not be placed underground where the current open space area of the campus currently is. Hopkins responded that he would inquire from Public Works. Kelsey would like clarity on the reasoning.

Hopkins noted that there may be a number of variables connected to the project which might not be feasible to the open space location, adding that there might be issues with regards to the King County Library site.

VII. Reports – Projects

A. Idylwood Park Playground

Cox reported that the playground structure is completed and now open to the public. Ancillary features will be added as budget allows to extend an access ramp to the west, for ADA compliance and some interpretive signage to help the public understand the concept of the playground's background in a historical perspective.

Ribbon cutting is schedule for the fall.

Phase II planning will start immediately with construction to begin in early spring 2006 - picnic shelter and volleyball court.

B. Evans Creek Trail

Cox reported that Phase I was completed earlier this year, with the raised portion of the trail to be completed contingent upon a steel panel delivery. This portion of the trail will link Perrigo Community Park, 95th Street to the north and Union Hill Road to the south. The remainder to the project would be to add the accessories, e.g. Park benches, picnic tables, and signage.

C. Skate Plaza Related Projects

Construction has begun on that portion, 160th and 161st, moved to 83rd Street improvements between 160th and 161st Avenue. Staff will ask KPG consultants to refine the drawings of a seat wall signage to a level to incorporate into the next project, the Transit Center renovation.

A pre-application meeting was held with Metro King County Transit regarding the trans-oriented development moving forward with plans of park and ride site and the trans-oriented development - somewhat in nature similar to the Overlake area - housing, retail, parking garage for park and ride

VIII. Coming Attractions

A. Bear Creek Parkway

A second meeting with the engineering and design firm of KPG will take place this month. Engineering and design firm consultants will be addressing the Park Board in October or November regarding progress in planning process and amenities (description, features, look of project, Heron Rookery, KC Shop Site plans, linkages to Redmond Way), west of Leary Way.

Hopkins reported that this project also impacts Luke McRedmond Landing Park, dependant on how 152nd is laid out. There will be some impact to landmark trees, entrance to the parking lot's right hand turn and plans for the Legacy Development. Accessibility to the park is of vital importance to the City.

B. Anderson Park Master Plan

Cox reported that HDR has been out at the park taking noise readings and are in the process of doing some background analysis and may be ready to come back to the Park Board in the next month or two.

C. Old Redmond Schoolhouse Community Center

Hopkins reported that currently the Board is working on the land acquisition planning process, SWOT analysis (neighborhood evaluation/planning process) and potential review of high impact facilities for opportunity studies and eventual master planning.

ORSCC - "interior" opportunity study - monies available for completing significant renovation on the interior - exterior (play field area and area adjacent to and including the elementary school) opportunity to address some of urban recreation needs of the community. Staff will be reviewing and critiquing the old master plan. As density increases

it will be critical toward the development of the exterior and maximize the usage - higher density, more population in the urbanized downtown center.

- D. Hartman Park - old master plan, opportunity with NW Center operating the pool to make Hartman a more usable year round park - basketball courts, tennis courts, opportunity to look at certain pockets of the park to make a more user friendly park.

Other sites to be part of a review of City community parks include: Juel Park and Sammamish Valley Community Park site. Studies will be helpful in prioritizing the CIP.

Hopkins added that the northeast area of Redmond - two loans have been secured for the Grass Lawn Renovations and Perrigo Park. Three more years on those loans. There is \$1 million dollars in the 2007 CIP for northwest Redmond; one of the priorities is addressing this, with potential of the school district property with a significant effort to accelerate this project.

- E. INPRA - National Parks and Recreation Association Award

Hopkins proudly announced the City's Parks and Recreation Department had won the International Parks and Recreation Association (NPRA) Award for 2005 for excellence in Parks Planning for Perrigo Park, combining the Bear Evans Creek Trail, in connection to the 60 acres park property and four designated park sites, showing environmental sensitivity. The award encompasses Portland, Seattle, British Columbia.

- E. Other

Stewart inquired about the Shari's restaurant site and the proposed and former development plans (residential units, businesses). Hopkins responded that the project, known as the Legacy Project, has been revitalized and resubmitted with new plans - no hotels, setbacks to park greater, receded elevation on the buildings. In July, the Board has previously seen the Use Agreement, however, new plans will be submitted to the Board in the near future.

IX. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Margeson
Second by: Stewart
Approved: 4-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

By: _____ Date _____
Seth Kelsey, Vice Chair

Minutes prepared by Recording Secretary, Sharon Sato

Next Regular Meeting
October 6, 2005
7:00 p.m.

Location: Old Redmond Schoolhouse Community Center